



Christ Episcopal Church

The Rev'd John Kevern

Senior Warden's Corner

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

Thanks to all who stayed after church last week and attended the Annual Congregational meeting. Also, special thanks to Kent Brown, Beth Greely, Bruce Hamilton and Lenin Leon for their time and service on the vestry of this church and to Kyle Hamilton for his service as Trustee. These people all gave of their time and talents on our behalf and their willingness to serve should be greatly appreciated by ALL.

Newly elected vestry members are: Lisa Capsey-Baker; Neal Hamilton; Christine Metheny; and, Anne Patterson. Christine and Lisa were elected to three (3) year terms and Anne and Neal were elected to two (2) year terms. The reason for the disparity in the terms was to accomplish the reduction of the vestry from eight (8) to seven (7), and to even out the terms of service. The current vestry and terms are as follows: Barbara Barkley (2014); David Blake (2014); Tara Steed (2014); Neal Hamilton (2015); Anne Patterson (2015); Lisa Capsey-Baker (2016); and, Christine Metheny (2016).

Kim Wade was elected as the new Trustee of Christ Episcopal Church, joining the remaining Trustees: Cheri Satterfield and Jeff Wallace.

Jim and Diane Cormack were re-elected as the Diocesan Convention Delegates, with Lisa Capsey-Baker and Christine Metheny being elected as alternates.

Again, all of these people deserve our thanks for their willingness to devote their time and attention to the service of this church.

FATHER JOHN WILL CONTINUE AS OUR TEMPORARY PRIEST THROUGH MARCH

Father John Kevern has graciously agreed to remain as our temporary priest through Easter (March 31, 2013). Father John's willingness to remain with us while we await word from Bishop Klusmeyer on candidates for our new priest-in-charge will provide us with continuity for another couple of months.

ENTRANCE RENOVATIONS

The architectural plans for ADA compliant entrances to both the sanctuary and Parrish Hall have been approved by the Vestry.

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Senior Warden’s Corner Continued...

These plans have been submitted to the Diocesan Architectural Board for approval, and it is anticipated that these will be approved in the very near future, and contractor estimates obtained to begin construction.

RENEWAL OF LICENSES

Twelve (12) congregation members had their licenses renewed for Eucharistic Minister, Eucharist Visitor and/or Worship Leader (formerly Lay Minister). These people are Barbara Barkley; Lisa Capsey-Baker; Caroline Carlot; Bruce Hamilton; Diane Hamilton; Neal Hamilton, Jim Kerr; Louise Lawson; Donna Nuzum; and, Tara Steed. IF any of the above-mentioned have not yet received their “certificate”, please see me.

USHERS WANTED

We are still seeking people who would be willing to volunteer as “ushers” during worship services. If you are interested in offering your services as an usher, to greet people coming to church, count the number in attendance and distribute the collection plate, please see me.


Peace,

Neal Jay Hamilton
Senior Warden


TWO FAMILIAR, but misunderstood, CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

By Fr. John Kevern

The three plaques (shields) have been remounted in the parish hall, and we owe a debt of thanks to Neal Hamilton for having repainted them. The one on the far right is a heart, which presumably requires no explanation. The other two will be visually familiar to Christian churchgoers, but they may be hard-pressed to explain exactly what they mean. Here are the explanations:

 **THE CHI-RHO** -- This appears to be a large X superimposed upon a capital P. But not so. The letters in question are from the Greek, not the Roman alphabet. In Greek X is pronounced “kuh”, and the name of the letter is the “Chi” (hard 'c'). “P” is actually our “r” and pronounced accordingly. The name for the letter is the “Rho”. Superimpose the Chi on the Rho and you get the symbol you often see, the Chi-Rho, which is NOT an X and a P from our alphabet (that’s the point). But why? “Christus” (i.e. the “Anointed One”) is pronounced the same in Greek and Latin, but, spelled in Greek, the first letter is a Chi, the second a Rho. Jesus, of course, is the Anointed One – in this case not with oil, but with the Holy Spirit at His Baptism. Thus, Greek-speaking Christians (which was most everybody, to one extent or another), could use these two letters, superimposed, as a “code” for Jesus the Christ. And so it has come down to us, aided by a purported historical fact.

The first Christian Roman emperor was Constantine, who defeated his last enemy at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge outside Rome in 312 A.D. There are two different versions of the battle history, coming from two different historians, but in one, Constantine sees the Chi-Rho in the sun above, and takes it to be a signal from the Christian God. Having won the battle, Constantine formally converted to Christianity, and made it legal within the Roman Empire. And thus, the Chi-Rho obtained its fame and subsequent depiction in art throughout the ages.

 **THE ALPHA and OMEGA** - Alpha is the name of the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and Omega, the last letter. Thus, when in the book of Revelation, St. John sees a vision of Jesus who says “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end”, Jesus is using the alphabet to make the that He is everything, or to quote St. Paul, “God will be all in all”. The book of Revelation then expounds its vision of what the events are immediately preceding the end, after which God in Jesus is indeed All in All, the Victor.

Announcements

VOLUNTEERS

Looking for a way to serve? Contact the Parish Coordinator (366-3471) to become an Usher.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS

Don't forget that Coffee Hour Sign-ups are still available! Nothing fancy, as simple as donuts, cookies, coffee, and juice! It's about the fellowship more than the food!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The preschool class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the Christian Education classrooms. During this time, a discussion group for parents will be held each week in the Library.

UPCOMING/CURRENT EVENTS

- Current **Outreach** Projects: Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House.
- **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**- February 12th, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Tickets on sale now!
- Saturday, February 16th – Volunteers are needed to help serve meals to those in need at the **Soup Opera** (located downtown at the corner of Quincy and Jackson Streets, just below the Fairmont Municipal Building) from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Christ Church is scheduled to provide and serve the meals at the Soup Opera every third Saturday of the month. Contact Kyle Hamilton (366-5148) for more information and to sign up to help.
- Sunday, February 17th – **Thirty-one Bingo** in the parish hall, 12:30pm.
- Monday, February 18th – **Outreach** meeting in the parish hall, 6:30pm.
- Wednesday, February 20th – **Vestry** meeting in the parish hall, 6:00pm.
- **Food For Thought** – The 2013 Confirmation class is collecting food for the children of Watson Elementary School. The donations serve to cover the children's needs throughout the weekend break from school. Donations may be left in the back of the church. See below for acceptable food items to be donated.
- Please be sure to check the bulletin board at the entrance of the church or contact the Parish Office for information about various **events** in our community, our Diocese, and beyond. Coming soon: **ConneXions** – "Mudhouse Sabbath" by Lauren Winner, a Lenten Online Book Discussion will begin on February 19, 2013.

Acceptable Donations to Food for Thought

Individual 100% Fruit Juice Boxes (4-7 oz), Individual Organic Milk Boxes (8 oz), Individual Cereal Boxes (8-9 oz), Breakfast Bars (Nature Valley, Special K, Nutri-Grain, etc.), Individual Canned Fruit (No sugar added), Individual Pasta Meals (7.5 oz), Individual Beanie Weenies (7.75 oz), Individual Vienna Sausage (5 oz), Individual Pudding Cups (3.5 oz), Sun Chips, Pretzels, Baked Lays (1-1.5 oz)

Congratulations!

To Gary and Linda Jack on the birth of their niece, Lydia Harrod.

and



To Toni Balenger on the birth of her great-grandsons Matthew Storm and Maverick Wayne.

Ash Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Service times: 7:30am and 6:00pm



Episcopal Church Men's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 12, 2013

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Adults - \$7.00

Children under 12 - \$5.00

Thirty-one Bingo in support of Brett Metheny Sunday, February 17, 2013 in the parish hall.

Brett will be joining other students at East Fairmont High School (EFHS) over spring break on a trip to England, Ireland, and Wales. The trip is chaperoned and led by teachers at EFHS through Education First (EF) Education tours. EF tours is the world leader in international education and student travel, with 45 years of experience. Brett is selling tickets to help sponsor this trip. Please come out and support him.



Doors open 12:30pm

\$20/20 games

Bible Study

By Jim Kerr

All persons interested in an in-depth study of the Holy Bible are invited to our Wednesday, 11:00am fellowship and luncheon in the Patterson Parish Hall. I will lead us through the pages of our Biblical quest of our Christian beginnings. Carolyn will serve a delightful noontime meal. Warm and wonderful friendship will be enjoyed by all and we can be on our way by one o'clock. We will continue our study on "women" of the bible.

Average Sunday Attendance

January: 55

Financial Report

January Income: \$8,570

January Expenses: \$12,531

Hymn Notes

By Carolyn Kerr

The God of Abraham Praise (February 24, 2013)

This hymn of praise dates back to 1404. The tune is a Hebrew melody which was sung in the Jewish synagogue. Thomas Oliver, an orphan before the age of 5, was converted to Christianity under the leadership of Father John Wesley. Mr. Oliver is given credit for the translation of this hymn as being one of the "noblest in existence". However, John Wesley fired him from his editorial position because of his frightful errors in topography and insertion of his own material without the permission of John Wesley.

When Morning Gilds the Skies (February 10, 2013)

This hymn is based on Psalm 113:3---"From the rising of the sun to its going down the Lord's name is to be praised". This hymn first appeared in the German hymnbook in 1744. It was translated into English 100 years later by a Catholic priest who was the son of an Anglican priest. He added additional verses until there were 14 total. Two examples I enjoy are:

*When you begin the day, O never fail to say,
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*And at your work rejoice, to sing with heart and voice,
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this at meals your grace, in every time and place,
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this, when day is past, of all your thoughts the last,
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

Church Contact List

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The Rev. John Kevern

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Liturgical Assistants Calendar

If you cannot be at church on one of your appointed days, please make arrangements for a replacement. Ushers should be in place at 10:15 to serve as greeters and provide assistance to those needing help. Lectors can find their weekly readings here: <http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristans	Ushers	Counters
2/3	10:30am Holy Eucharist	Caroline C. Jude M.	Sharon H. Alec W.	Alec W. Abby W. Emma B.	Team 3 Green	Lenin L. Kent B.	David B. Chris M.
2/10	10:30am Holy Eucharist	Kyle H. Louise L.	Kyle H. Joyce H.	Nikki L. Nicolas G. Catherine B.	Team 4 Green	Glenn B. Lenin L.	Anne P. Barb B.
2/13	10:30am Holy Eucharist	Lisa C.-B. Tara S.	Tara S. Meredith M.	Meredith M. Leah M. Hunter B.	Team 3 Purple	Baker Family	Tara S. Lisa C.-B.
2/17	10:30am Holy Eucharist	Neal H. Donna N.	Neal H. Barb B.	Nikki L. Brett M. Emma B.	Team 1 Purple	Steed-Marsh Family	Neal H. Toni B.
2/24	10:30am Holy Eucharist	Bruce H. Dot H.	Bruce H. Dot H.	Alec W. Abby W. Nicolas G.	Team 2 Purple	Glenn B. Kent B.	David B. Chris M.

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